KIRKHAM - MILLER - NOOR

IMAGE COMICS #4

PREVIOUSLY IN

FINAL BOSS

STAGE 3: THE WHARF

In the underbelly of Farthica, TOMMY and RABAK are led to a safe haven, CRANK'S Merc and Vile, where they are geared up for any future problems they may encounter on the crime-ridden island. On the way to their hotel, they encounter a brutal scene on the wharf leading to a battle with WAR HOG and his gang. Luckily they get some help from an unknown mysterious ally only known as MASKED VIGILANTE.

STAGE 4: FORGOTTEN DESERT

TYLER KIRKHAM
creator/writer

TYLER KIRKHAM with DAVID MILLER
art

IFANSYAH NOOR
colors

ZEN
letters/edits/production

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WORLD WAR 2, SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC.

MY GOD!

WHAT HAVE WE WALKED INTO? STAY VIGILANT AND DON'T BLINK OR BREATHE UNLESS YOU KNOW WHAT'S IN FRONT OF YOU. ***PETERSON*** DESERVED BETTER THAN THIS...

LET'S GET SOME LIGHT IN HERE.

FWOOSH

HISSSH

UMM, CAPTAIN...

YUP. *WOW!* WOULD YOU LOOK AT THIS?

CRAACKLE FWOOSH

RUMBLE CRACK

JESUS ALMIGHTY.

TODAY.

KNOCK KNOCK

YAAAAWN.

WHAT'S THIS? COORDINATES? TOO EARLY FOR THIS...

If YOU help us rescue the Forgotten we will provide YOU with the answers YOU seek.

+4° 8' 15.00", +162° 3' 42.00"

OH, HEY! EXCUSE ME, DID YOU DELIVER THIS LETTER?

WHY NO, SIR. BUT I AM HERE TO DROP OFF YOUR BREAKFAST AND THIS DIGITAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

PLEASE ENJOY. AND BY THE WAY, MY NAME IS ***PERCIVAL***, YOUR PERSONAL CONCIERGE. I'M HERE TO HELP WITH ANYTHING YOU MAY NEED DURING YOUR STAY. JUST PRESS POUND ONE ON YOUR PHONE.

OH, AND THE GYM AND TRAINING FACILITIES ARE ON LEVEL FIVE.

=YAWN= WHAT'S THAT SMELL?!

OH, YUM!

YOU SHOULD STILL BE RESTING, MAN, AFTER WHAT WE WENT THROUGH LAST NIGHT.

YEAH, I WISH. WE GOTTA WATCH THIS.

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome! Today kicks off the opening day of the Tournament of the Gods!

If you are hearing this, it's because you have been chosen to compete! Only the fierce and mighty will succeed!

We have created the ultimate state-of-the-art training facilities for you here onsite. Everything you need to prepare for the ultimate battle. No expense spared. The fights will take place in select locations around the city and island. You will be informed when it is your turn to train and to compete!

The best warriors from around the world are right here in Farthica.

Be ready for the ultimate showdown! This is your time to shine. Your turn for absolute glory!

No rules, no regulations, no holds barred! All-out brutal competition!

DAMN, INTENSE...

WELL, BETTER GET YOUR ASS IN GEAR.

FIRST CHECK THIS OUT. IT'S ABOUT MY DAD. I THINK WE NEED TO LOOK INTO IT REAL QUICK. IT'S GOT COORDINATES. I THINK WE SHOULD ASK--

--CRANK.

YUP!

SO I HEARD BLOOD WAS SPILLED ON THE WHARF LAST NIGHT. YOUR DOING? I HOPE. ***HAH!*** THAT HOG HAD IT COMING!

CRANKS MERC & VILE

Armor

Guns

Welcome!

THANKS FOR GEARING US UP AND LETTING US BORROW A RIDE!

YOU HAVE A BIT OF A TREK AHEAD OF YA, AND IT'S OUT WEST IN THE ***FORGOTTEN DESERT.*** NOT THE PLACE YOU WANNA WANDER UNPREPARED. HOME OF THE ***FORSAKEN TRIBE.***

GRAB A FEW GUNS AND BLADES. OH, AND I'M PACKING THIS BONE SPLITTER. GOD FORBID YOU NEED IT, BUT YOU MAY...

I'VE HEARD SOME HORROR STORIES, YUP. LOTS OF FOLKS HAVE GONE MISSING WHEN THEY VENTURE OUT THERE.

RABAK AND I BETTER BE CAREFUL. IF THERE IS ANY INFO THERE ABOUT MY FATHER, THOUGH, THE RISK WILL BE WORTH IT. THAT IS THE MAIN REASON I AM HERE. I CAN'T LET THE TOURNAMENT DISTRACT ME FROM THAT.

UNKNOWN LOCATION ON THE ISLAND.

VROOOMVROOOOM

IT'S ME, REPORTING.

GOOD!

CRANK SAID THESE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN HERE HUNDREDS OF YEARS. EVEN BEFORE MY GRANDFATHER REDISCOVERED THE ISLAND. BUT HE ALSO SAID THEY AREN'T THE ANCIENT PEOPLE THAT BUILT THE TEMPLES?

LIKE THEY WERE EXILED HERE...WE KNOW THEY'RE SCARY AND THEY LOVE DEATH AND TORTURE. THE POINT IS, THEY KNOW THESE HILLS AND WE DON'T.

SO KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN.

CRANK THINKS THERE IS AN ELDER OR SLAVE THAT HAS SOME ANSWERS FOR ME.

GET BACK TO WORK, SCUM. YOU'RE NOT DONE UNTIL I SEE THE BONES IN YOUR FINGERTIPS.

BUT WHO COULD HAVE GOT YOU THE LETTER?

YEAH, THAT'S THE MYSTERY. GEAR UP AND LET'S GO CHECK IT OUT.

OH, I'M READY!

LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE ALL PRETTY DISTRACTED.

THIS ONE HASN'T HAD FUN IN A WHILE!

THIS MORNING ACTUALLY! *HAHAHA!*

HAHAHA!

WELL THEN IT'S MY TURN! SHE ONLY HAS A FEW MORE DAYS TILL SHE'S THE CLAN'S DINNER ANYWAY!

I'LL HAVE ANOTHER GO AS WELL!

AAAAHH!

ON ME, WE'RE RUSHING IN. FIRE THAT THING UP!

VRAAAAMRAAAM

CLINK

VRAAAAAM

SPLISH

AAAAAHHH!

DAMN, NO WONDER CRANK SENT THAT SAW WITH US. THAT MADE EASY WORK OF HIM.

RAAAARH!

ICK!

SNAP

THAT'S HOW IT'S DONE!

THIS GIRL HAS BEEN THROUGH HELL. I NEED TO TALK TO HER BUT THERE IS NO TIME.

SHHH, THEY HEARD THAT.

STAY BEHIND US.

AS LONG AS WE CAN KEEP HER ALIVE, I THINK SHE WILL HELP US.

LOOKS LIKE WE GOT US A FIGHT!

OK, THIS IS BAD. WE HAVE ALERTED THE WHOLE DAMN TRIBE. I KNOW THESE PEOPLE ARE CANNIBALS AND THAT IS NOT HOW I'M GOING DOWN. WE'RE NOT GONNA BE SOMEONE'S DINNER.

BUT THIS WITCH LOOKS SCARY AS HELL...

GET THEM!

VS
TOMMY BRAZEN
AGE 36
HEIGHT 6'2"
WEIGHT 195
STAMINA 51/100
SPEED 53/100
STRENGTH 65/100
SPECIAL SKILL XP 17/100
RITUAL
AGE UNKNOWN
HEIGHT 7'4"
WEIGHT 225
STAMINA 68/100
SPEED 41/100
STRENGTH 39/100
SPECIAL SKILL XP 45/100

EIGHT!

THAT IS ONE BIG BITCH.

CAPTURE THEM ALIVE, THEY LOOK LIKE GOOD WORKERS. YOU WILL NEVER LEAVE HERE!

CLANK

SPLISH

THIS IS MY LAND. NO ONE COMES HERE AND LEAVES WITHOUT MY BLESSING.

THESE SAVAGES ARE STRONG. WE ARE NOT EQUIPPED FOR THIS FIGHT.

TOMMY, GET DOWN.

YOU TOO!

SLIICE

THANKS, MAN!

THERE ARE SO MANY OF THEM. THE GOOD THING IS WE ARE MORE SKILLED! WE HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE IF WE CAN FOCUS AND JUST BE RUTHLESS!

FUCK...

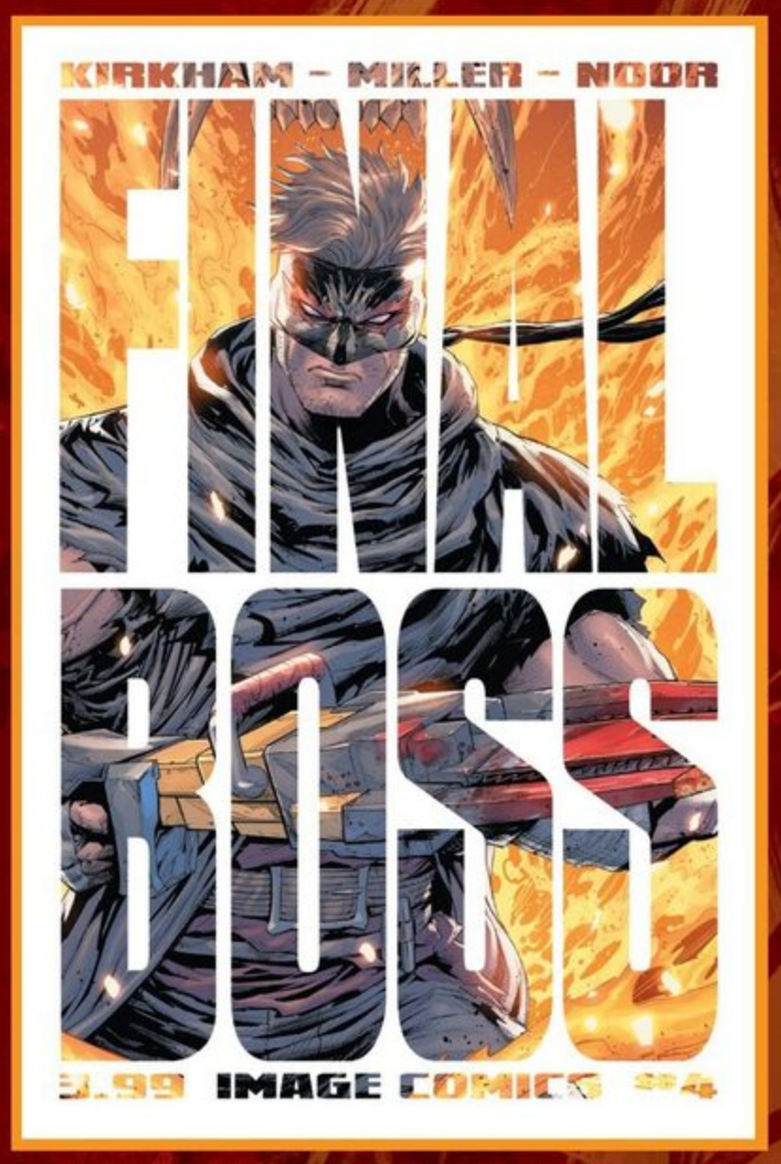
IT'S TIME I REALLY TEST MY ABILITIES!

TO BE CONTINUED

ISSUE 5 BONUS ROUND PREVIEW!

TYLER KIRKHAM
MILLER
Ifar

COVER GALLERY



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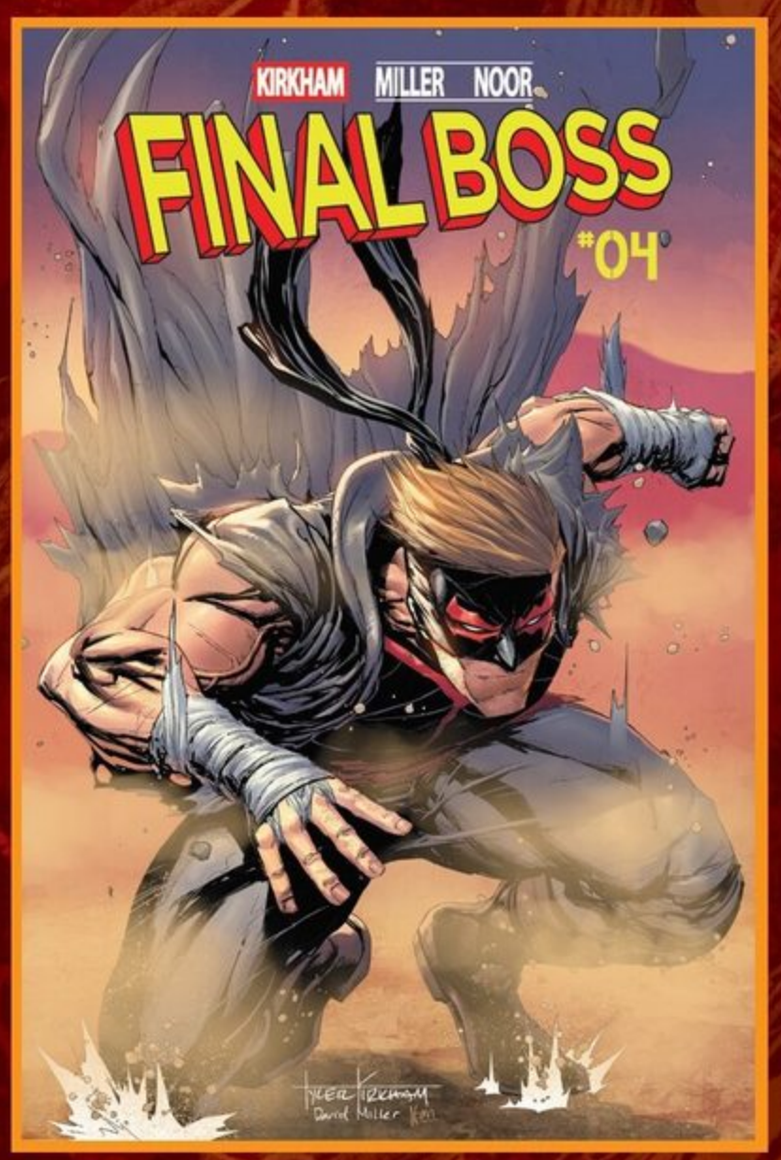
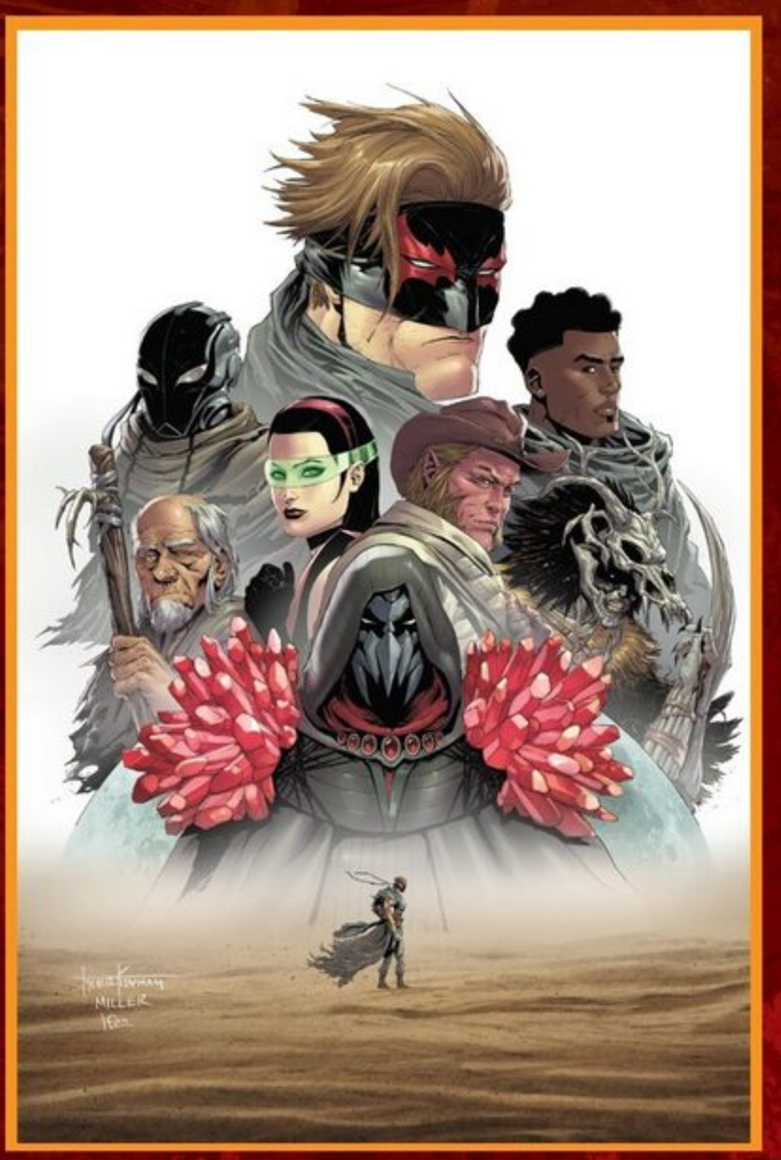
ART BY ALAN QUAH

ART BY SHELBY ROBERTSON



ART BY TYLER KIRKHAM
1 IN 25 RATIO

ART BY SHELBY ROBERTSON
1 IN 50 RATIO



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FINAL BOSS

KIRKHAM GOVENDER NAYAKA

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SHE WAS A HIPPIE.
THE REST ARE THE POOR BASTARDS
WHO GOT IN THEIR WAY.

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This Film May Not Be Suitable for "the Fuzz"

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FEBRUARY AT IMAGE

In a fantasy land where "Light" and "Darkness" are merely two sides of a coin called "perpetual, pointless war" is born a creature – half dwarf, half orc. Named ***D'Orc***. Of course it is. Brett Bean (*I Hate Fairyland*), Jean-François Beaulieu (*I Hate Fairyland*) and Nate Piekos (*Minor Threats*) take our conflict-averse hero and give them a shield with a desire for murder and also a chicken. If you enjoyed Bean's work on *I Hate Fairyland*, you're the audience for this supernatural trope-bisecting romp.

White Sky starts in an austere landscape into which walks a sad dad and his daughter, alone and lost in a haunted, deserted, apocalyptic world. *The Last of Us* comparisons are obvious, and not unwarranted, but it moves confidently, and takes its time to build up before revealing its own ghostly horror. William Harms (*Impaler*), Jean-Paul Mavinga and Lee Loughridge (*G.I. Joe*) work together as an impressive storytelling unit. The world is lost, but you're in safe hands.

Death Fight Forever follows the recent sell-out hit *Final Boss* into tapping the classic 1980s arcade game energy with the cover, but rather than 90s classic Image in vibes, Andrew MacLean (*Head Lopper*) with a revolving cast of artists go berserk. First up is Alexis Ziritt (*Space Riders*), who does pure gonzo comixxx. For example, I count nine examples of the SFX "BRKKKA". On The First Page. It makes you think about big issues, like "Why are they called miniguns? They're HUGE?"

Over at Top Cow, ***The Thing on the Doorstep***'s name will ring bells. No, it's not whatever Amazon parcel's been lobbed at your front door – it's the Lovecraft short story, which this miniseries expands upon. Simon Birks (*Antarctica*, *The Shadow Over Innsmouth*) and Willi Roberts (*Antarctica*, *The Dark*) attack the problem of adapting and updating Lovecraft with relish (or some other, mysterious sticky substance), with modern touches to this period story of friendship, horror, murder and more horror.

At Skybound, the Universal Monsters series reaches ***The Phantom of the Opera*** where ambition meets murder in the Parisian demimonde. Tyler Boss (*You'll Do Bad Things*) and Martin Simmonds (*Department of Truth*) approach this story of a wannabe and her spectral Romeo with fresh eyes and style. Frankly, Simmonds could make a *Paw Patrol* comic look operatic and creepy. Given material like this, it really is showtime and we've all got front row, viscera-splattered seats.

Kieron Gillen writes ***The Power Fantasy*** and ***DIE: Loaded***.

"FIGHT POWER-UP REPEAT"

COVER A **TYLER KIRKHAM**

RATED **M** (MATURE)

image®

FINAL BOSS #4

ZONE